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on  
10-11-02IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEIn Re Application of:  
RUTH et al.

Serial No.: 09/842,790

Filed: April 25, 2001

For: LITHIUM-ION BATTERY FOR  
HYBRID ELECTRIC  
VEHICLESExaminer: Unknown  
Art Unit: 1741Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231-0001PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examining the application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In further accordance with the preferred embodiment, the positive tabs are electrically connected to the peripheral wall by first folding them over the lower wall edge. A conductive end cap is mounted against the peripheral wall lower edge to pinch and electrically connect the positive tabs therebetween. The end cap is then sealed to the case peripheral wall, e.g., by laser welding, to completely seal the battery lower end and electrically connect the positive tabs to the case peripheral wall.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

After the metal ring 78 and dielectric ring 70 have been installed at the upper end of the peripheral wall 14, the aforescribed jelly roll assembly 22 is inserted into the case 12 from the open lower end 18. The upwardly extending negative tabs 50, 52 are

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